

ALERT

Ambassador Leadership Education Resources & Training



Primary Care Week Coming October 19-25, 2003

National Primary Care Week (NPCW) is an annual event highlighting the importance of primary care and bringing health care professionals together to discuss and learn about generalist and interdisciplinary health care—particularly their impact on and importance to underserved populations. This year's theme is "Advocacy for Health: A Professional Responsibility." NPCW 2003 seeks to build on the U.S. Surgeon General's Healthy People 2010 initiative by teaching students from different health professions how to work together. For more information about this year's program, visit <http://www.amsa.org/programs/npcw/npcw.cfm>

Activities: We know that many of you have already planned exciting events such community health fairs, CHIP enrollment, poster sessions, or career days. If you have not yet started to participate in NPCW, we suggest beginning with a forum for students about the Interdisciplinary Team. The American Student Medical Association (AMSA) has developed a class module that can be coordinated by students with activities intended to promote informed discussion about the health care team. You can access the module at <http://www.amsa.org/programs/gpit/pcteam.cfm>

Healthy People 2010 has two major goals: first, to increase quality and years of healthy life, and second, to eliminate health disparities. To find out more about Healthy People 2010—its goals, activities, and partners—you can visit the Web site at <http://www.healthypeople.gov/document/>

President Bush's **Healthier US** Initiative is designed to get all Americans in action to live longer, better and healthier lives. Find out more at: <http://healthierUS.gov>

A Related Resource has just been announced by Community-Campus Partnerships for Health. *Advancing the Healthy People 2010 Objectives through Community-Based Education: A Curriculum Planning Guide* is a resource for teaching health promotion and disease prevention to health professions students at all levels of education. The 250-page guide centers around eight planning units that are supported by background readings, case studies, worksheets, handouts, resources, and reflection questions. For more information visit www.ccph.info. A continuing education institute based on the guide will be presented at this fall's American Public Health Association conference, Nov. 16th from 2:30-6:00 pm. For details, visit www.apha.org.

NHSC Timeline for Upcoming Year

The NHSC will soon begin the recruitment cycle for the next round of the scholarship and loan repayment programs. Here is a general timeline of events in the cycle. We will do our best to keep you informed as we get nearer to important dates. Ambassadors can always refer interested students to the NHSC telephone number **1-800-221-9393** for the latest information on applications and deadlines.

Scholarship applications available	January
Scholarship applications due	Last Friday of March
Scholarship interviews	May-June
Scholarship awardees notified	August – September

LRP Applications available	November
LRP awards	January-September

Ambassador in Action

With funding from the Illinois Department of Public Health, NHSC Ambassador Rajesh Parikh surveyed health professional students, residents, and clinicians to determine their training needs. He found out that both students and clinicians wanted more clinical and practical rotations during their academic years, especially in underserved areas. They requested training in cultural competence, practice management, and community outreach. And they needed more resources and support for finding jobs in clinics that served underrepresented populations and minorities. Local AHECs will use this data to design short courses and continuing education activities for Illinois clinicians.

We are striving to provide Ambassadors with information and resources that address training, practice, and employment issues for students interested in primary care of underserved populations. Please keep us informed of your relevant research findings and needs so that we can share information and tailor our program appropriately.

Translating Evidence Into Action

Proceedings are now available from the "National Symposium on Community-University Partnerships: Translating Evidence into Action." The April 26, 2003 Symposium was cosponsored by the Community-Campus Partnerships for Health and the Department of Housing and Urban Development's Office of University Partnerships. To view and print the proceedings, visit "What's New" at <http://www.ccph.info/>.

